Subject:	**INFORMATION**: Airspace Flow Program (AFP), Trust and Verify	Date: JUN 1 2006
From:	Director of System Operations	Reply to Attn. of:
To:	Directors of Terminal Services and En Route and Oceanic Operations	

This summer, AFPs will be utilized to manage convective weather constraints that impact the Northeast portion of the nation. AFPs use the same software logic as Ground Delay Programs (GDPs) and apply to a specific volume of airspace instead of an airport. The result is that AFPs will affect more aircraft than traditional GDPs. Particular concerns to customers are changes to Expect Departure Clearance Times (EDCTs) generated by AFP/GDP cancellations or flights routed out of an AFP. In these cases, the EDCT would not apply and there may be instances when the flight crew would receive this information before the Air Traffic Control Facility.

In these cases, Trust and Verify applies. Trust and Verify was adopted to ensure that an aircraft would not be held past its EDCT when there was a discrepancy between the pilot's EDCT and the control facility's EDCT. There are reasons why the control facility might not have an updated EDCT and subjecting the flight to additional delay may not be appropriate. Please ensure that appropriate personnel are briefed regarding EDCT procedures located in FAA Order 7110.65 paragraphs 4-3-4.d.2.b and 4-3-4.d.3 *NOTE*. For your convenience, the *NOTE* concerning Trust and Verify is printed below.

NOTE-
(Trust & Verify) EDCTs are revised by Air Carriers and Traffic Management for changing conditions en route or at affected airport(s). Terminal controllers' use of aircraft reported EDCT for departure sequencing should be verified with the appropriate TMU prior to departure if this can be accomplished without the aircraft incurring delay beyond the EDCT reported by the aircraft. The preferred method for verification is the Flight Schedule Monitor (FSM). If the EDCT cannot be verified without incurring additional delay, the aircraft should be released based on the pilot reported EDCT. The aircraft operator is responsible for operating in a manner consistent to meet the EDCT.

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